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## **Accountability Minutes 08/24/2007**

*THE ARLINGTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE*

*ACCOUNTABILITY SUBCOMMITTEE*

*Friday, August 24, 2007 @ 8:30 a.m..*

**In attendance:** Jeff Thielman (Subcommittee Chair), Denise Burns, Ron Spangler, Nate Levenson (Superintendent), Topher Heigham (parent), Josh Lobel (Town Meeting Member)

**The meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m.**

- 1. The July 20, 2007 minutes were approved 2-0 (Motion by Mr. Spangler, Second by Mr. Thielman)**
- 2. Review of Goals and Measures**

**Goal 2: All students will attain high levels of academic success through the implementation of a data-driven, standards based education.**

*e) Create baseline data to gauge the increase of the percentage of children who are proficient in math in grades 4-10. Measurement will be based on growth over time of individual students in the district, not year-to-year comparisons of different cohorts, based primarily on common assessments.*

Potential Points: 3

**Subcommittee voted to award 1.9 points by a vote of 2-0 (Motion by Mr. Spangler, Second by Mr. Thielman)**

*f) Create baseline data to gauge the increase of the percentage of children who are proficient in writing in grades 4-10. Measurement will be based on growth over time of individual students in the district, not year-to-year comparisons of different cohorts, based primarily on common assessments.*

Potential Points: 3

**Subcommittee voted to award .6 points by a vote of 3-0 (Motion by Mr. Spangler, Second by Ms. Burns).**

*g) Increase the percentage of readers at grade level in grades 1 and 2. Measurement will be based on growth over time of individual students in the district, not year-to-year comparisons of different cohorts.*

Potential Points: 6

**Subcommittee voted to table a vote on this measure until the September 24<sup>th</sup> Subcommittee meeting on a vote of 3-0. (Motion by Mr. Spangler, Second by Ms. Burns)**

**Goal 3: Ensure that all Arlington graduates are well-prepared for social, emotional and vocational success in**

**the 21<sup>st</sup> century.**

*b) Produce a plan to phase in the recommendations of the 21<sup>st</sup> century study group, and incorporate the first phase of these recommendations into the 2007-08 school year budget, course offerings, and curriculum.*

Potential points: 7

Recommended points earned: 3.5 for the plan; 3.5 points if five of seven SC members approve the plan.

**Subcommittee voted to award 3.5 points for the completion of the plan on a vote of 3-0. Motion by Ms. Burns, second by Mr. Spangler.**

3. The subcommittee discussed presenting the updated grid to the full Committee. The consensus was that the most efficient way to proceed was to present the subcommittee's recommendations to the full Committee after a final vote on Goal 2, Measure G, and after the full Committee votes on the Special Education Vision and 21<sup>st</sup> Century Plan at the September 11<sup>th</sup> meeting. This would mean a presentation at the September 25, 2007 School Committee meeting on the Accountability Grid.

a. There was discussion about presenting a motion on September 25<sup>th</sup> recommending that the full Committee adopt all unanimous subcommittee votes, including unanimous votes to award no points. SC members would discuss and ask questions on any measures/milestones and points recommended by the subcommittee as part of the discussion on the main motion. Any School Committee member would be entitled to ask that a vote to award points as recommended by the subcommittee under any measure or milestone be separated from the motion and discussed individually. After a vote on the unanimous subcommittee recommendations, the full Committee would have the opportunity to discuss and vote on any non-unanimous subcommittee recommendations as well as any measures/milestones under the goals that members asked to discuss separately.

b. Mr. Thielman could only recall one subcommittee vote that was 2-1, a vote on June 5, 2007 against awarding points for a shared Special Education Vision (Goal 1, Measure "e"). Mr. Spangler said there was another issue on which the subcommittee voted 2-1, but no one could recall what that was. [Per Mr. Spangler's request, Mr. Thielman checked past minutes and could not find another 2-1 vote]. Ms. Burns said that the subcommittee should revisit the shared Special Education vision question at its meeting on September 24<sup>th</sup>.

**4. The committee voted to meet next on Monday, September 24<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 a.m.**